

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on January 14, 2002 and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Rebekah Werth
Rebekah Werth

EL 719395295 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

DATTAGUPTA, et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Continuation of Serial No. 09/384,717

Filing Date: Herewith

For: STABILIZATION OF NUCLEIC ACID
AMPLIFICATION COCKTAIL

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

REMARKS

Before examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request consideration of this Preliminary Amendment.

The Applicants would like to distinguish a particular reference, Park et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,153,412 (Park et al.), based upon the currently pending claims. Park et al. discloses the use of a stabilizing and sedimenting agent, *i.e.*, glycerol, glucose, polyol, water soluble dye and

2002-01-14 09:29:00